

Summary of doctoral dissertation “Developmental strategies of European Union of the XXI century” written by mgr Anna Wesolowska, under the supervisor of full professor Bogdan Koszel at the Faculty of Political Science and Journalism, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Poland.

For years, the European Union has been striving to achieve a significant position in the global arena. Undoubtedly, EU is a unique actor in international relations, an organization of twenty-eight European countries. The Member States have adopted the ambitious goal of becoming the most competitive and innovative economy. This is important in the context of the growing role of highly developed countries, in particular the United States, Japan and China. Taking into account these aspirations, Member States had decided to prepare strategic documents within the European Union containing a comprehensive approach to this issue.

The fundamental caesura of thesis focused on the years 2000-2015. The first of these dates is related to the launching of the first development strategy - the Lisbon strategy. The second date related to mid-term survey of the last of them, the Europe 2020 strategy, and provided an excellent opportunity to look at the progress which was made so far.

The basic hypothesis of dissertation is based on the assumption that the European Union's activities are developmental, evolutionary in nature, and their aim is becoming a global leader of competitiveness and innovation. The author has undertaken the attempt to prove that launching of strategic documents and then their implementation were crucial in the process of gaining a leading role on the world stage.

The thesis contains five chapters supplemented with an introduction, a list of abbreviations, an ending and a bibliography. The first chapter (the European Union at the beginning of the 21st century), which has an introductory character, is an attempt to define the position of the European Union on the international arena. The second chapter (R & D policy of the European Union after 2000) is a characteristic of research and development policy. The starting point for the analysis of the current condition of the European Union's research and developmental policy is its evolution. The author has looked at the research programs launched within the EU, broadly discussing the 7 Framework Programme and the Horizon 2020. She also has analyzed the process of creating the European Research Area. The next chapter of the dissertation (The Lisbon Strategy and the renewed Lisbon Strategy) is devoted

to the analysis of the Lisbon Strategy and the renewed Lisbon Strategy. The first of these was adopted during the European Council summit held on 23-24 March 2000 in Lisbon. This plan defined the direction of the European Union's development mainly in economic matters. The goal of strategy was to make the European Union the most competitive economy in the world in ten years. In the next chapter (Europe of knowledge - implementation of the Bologna process), is focused on changes in higher education and the results of launching of the Bologna process. The last extensive chapter of the dissertation (Europe 2020 strategy) is an attempt to analyze the most important aspects of the current Europe 2020 strategy. This document replaced previous strategies. It is a long-term program aimed at ensuring the social and economic development of the European Union. It is devoted to the challenges facing the European Union's economy at the beginning of the 21st century.